Scott. II-27—45,006—19-10-39.

Development (1940) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 280

Dated 5 - 2 - 1940

[Despatch Abstract.]

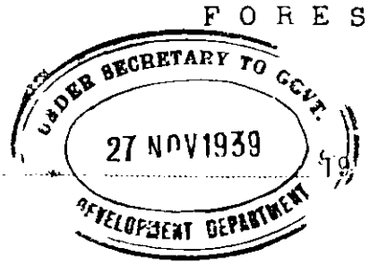
Forests - Lease - Kollegal Forest Division - Cardamom cultivation - Chief Conservator's proposals - Sanctioned.

***

Kollegal T.F.
Dodabetta range R.F.
Nilgiris

C.F. 30

FOREST DEPARTMENT.



Received ..... 19 . *Registered* 19

35251-I
27.11.39

Subject.

FORESTS - Lease of Forest lands - Kollegal Division - for cultivation of cardamoms and oranges - application from Mr. R.C. Morris.

Urgent.

ENCLOSURES.
No. .....
.....
Spare copies .....

Reference No. 6215/38 D1.

Station MADRAS *Dated the* 17th November 19 39.

From (Name) C. C. Wilson, Esquire, I.F.S.,
(Designation) Chief Conservator of Forests.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Development Department.

Sir,

Ref: G.O. No.MS.2601, Development Department, dated the 24th October 1939.

With reference to the remarks made in paragraph (1) of the G.O. quoted above, it should be stated that Mr. Morris informed the Chief Conservator of Forests some weeks ago that the statements made in Section 5 of Chapter I of the Working Plan for Kollegal are demonstrably incorrect and that rubber was actually planted in the area, but failed, after prolonged trial, and that only then

was

V/

was coffee introduced.

2. The objections to the grant of cardamom leases in the Gundal valley of Kollegal Division are founded almost entirely on the statement that the supplies of water in the Kollegal tanks have been decreasing year after year since areas were allowed to be clear felled and planted with coffee in that locality, and that there is danger of a serious decrease in productivity of the soil if cardamom planting is allowed there. That the whole basis of this argument is wrong and the statements made are without foundation is shown below.

3. A statement showing the area under wet cultivation from 1911-12 to 1938-39 in the areas served by the Gundal stream is submitted and it will be seen that the area has remained practically constant.

A

Another statement showing the remission granted in the several fasli years commencing from 1912 is also enclosed. These figures show <u>that during the last 27 years since 1912-13 remission has been granted only in eight years</u>, and that the fall in revenue is very little.

4. The felling of the comparatively small area of forest granted in about 1907 away up in the mountains, and its cultivation with coffee, has therefore clearly made little or no difference to the supplies of water in the Kollegal tanks, and the campaign against further activities in this locality is one of misrepresentation.

Apart from this, however, the introduction of cardamoms under the shade of the existing shola <u>can</u> have

A

no

A no ill effects on the water supply; this principle has been recognised by Government in the recent order they have passed in connection with similar ill informed agitation in regard to the evergreen forests in the catchment area of the Tambaraparani in the Tinnevelly district. (Attention is invited to correspondence ending with G.O.No.2729, Development Department, dated the 8th November 1939). It is pointed out that to introduce cardamoms no destruction of the forest is allowed or required. The under-growth alone is cleared and the cardamom plants are planted in its place and they rapidly provide better cover for the ground than did the weeds and shrubs that originally stood there. The same principle applies throughout the many areas where cardamom leases are granted, in Madura, and South Canara, to the considerable financial benefit of Government and the increased prosperity of the country.

There is no valid objection at all to the grant of leases for cardamom planting in these Kollegal hills.

From the Chief Conservator's personal knowledge of the locality, it is the destructive fires that recur annually over vast areas in these valleys that are doing such damage to the water supplies as is done.

5. The very small acreage of podu cultivation carried on by the Sholagars in the dry forests lower down this valley can have no effect on the water supply away down in Kollegal. The Sholagars have lived in these forests, and cultivated the soil from time immemorial

4/

immemorial and it would seem to be of doubtful justice, or wisdom now to evict them without, in Chief Conservator's considered opinion, any good reason.

6. Further, under the instructions recently issued by the Chief Conservator, in all cases of shifting cultivation the Sholagas will in future be required to plant timber trees along with their field crops in the same way as is done in other 'Kumri' areas throughout Madras and Burma and therefore the forest will be improved by such cultivation. At present, due to over exploitation in the past, it is a degraded type of poor deciduous forest, though it will carry a good crop of rosewood, vengai and other valuable timber trees.

7. It is therefore requested that in view of the facts reported above, the Chief Conservator may be permitted to have an interview with the Adviser to His Excellency the Governor in charge of the Forest Portfolio before proceeding to give effect to the orders issued in G.O. No.2601 MS. Development Department, dated the 24th October 1939.

for CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
MADRAS.

27 NOV 1939

SSR/23.11

STATEMENT SHOWING THE AREA AND ASSESSMENT OF WET LANDS UNDER THE IRRIGATION SOURCES FED BY THE GUNDAL RIVER AND REMISSIONS GRANTED DURING THE PAST SEVERAL FASLIS.

Taluk	Total number of Villages concerned	Wet Area	Wet Assessment.	Amount of remissions in faslis.								REMARKS:
				1333 (1923-24)	1335 (1925-26)	1336 (1926-27)	1337 (1927-28)	1344 (1934-35)	1345 (1935-36)	1346 (1936-37)	1348 (1938-39)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Acres		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Kollegal	18	4,831	23,102	400	4,188	10,049	3,650	9,358	11,333	696	7,369	Fasli - 1st July to 30th June. There were no remissions in the other faslis commencing from 1912 when the resettlement was introduced in the Kollegal Taluk.

Statement showing the extent of wet cultivatio
river Kollegal Taluq

Year	Hampa-puram	Muli-gundam	Kondar-balu	Kolle-gal	Dasan-puram	Haralai	Agra-haram	Sidda-yana-puram	Ma-duva-nahalli	Haruva-napura
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
1911-12	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1912-13	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	651	–	224
1913-14	233	–	53	–	73	187	225	651	–	223
1914-15	242	–	53	–	77	187	239	651	–	301
1915-16	242	–	53	–	61	168	215	651	–	286
1916-17	242	–	53	–	51	151	175	651	–	300
1917-18	222	–	53	–	50	168	208	620	–	303
1918-19	229	–	52	–	59	149	212	627	980	297
1919-20	224	–	52	–	61	180	234	629	974	298
1920-21	226	–	52	–	57	–	–	616	972	292
1921-22	212	–	52	–	61	178	250	614	983	296
1922-23	220	–	52	–	61	187	254	650	984	298
1923-24	227	–	50	–	53	187	235	637	1022	294
1924-25	239	–	49	–	–	141	126	642	1024	301
1925-26	237	–	–	–	–	149	–	640	1022	292
1926-27	224	–	–	–	–	151	188	542	1012	292
1927-28	191	–	–	–	19	141	192	512	1018	299
1928-29	250	125	44	1176	49	148	191	621	1005	298
1929-30	235	124	51	1216	52	146	192	626	1019	297
1930-31	229	121	51	1253	44	135	173	607	1017	296
1931-32	234	121	52	1228	42	145	173	608	1008	293
1932-33	241	124	52	1239	43	130	177	547	884	300
1933-34	226	125	50	1223	44	137	197	613	937	292
1934-35	251	124	52	1248	43	152	204	618	955	289
1935-36	248	124	52	1230	54	154	205	621	954	264
1936-37	240	124	51	1183	55	148	202	602	989	275
1937-38	248	125	52	1258	57	162	197	623	1004	279
1938-39	252	124	52	1273	45	158	205	624	1002	284

6
25/4.

under the sources which are fed by the Gundal

Laxmi puram	Chikkadwadi	Palayam	Gundegal	Tenakanalli	Saragoor	Danagerai	Doddidwad
Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15	–	329	326	141	88	134	50
16	106	333	332	141	88	134	46
20	106	330	–	–	77	134	46
25	109	327	–	–	70	132	46
26	108	326	–	–	77	131	45
23	108	330	–	–	72	132	46
23	97	312	–	–	72	127	46
24	108	323	–	–	71	127	44
26	111	329	–	–	65	127	44
26	108	294	–	–	68	128	45
26	108	305	–	–	58	111	42
26	111	306	–	–	67	123	42
25	112	305	–	–	64	108	29
26	113	305	–	–	42	97	32
26	113	305	–	–	63	100	30
24	110	326	–	–	45	71	45
26	110	326	336	155	58	101	42
25	108	326	354	1[illegible]	51	98	48
26	111	326	345	155	40	94	29
18	113	324	338	145	44	95	29
20	117	325	344	156	42	96	48
23	121	324	342	157	54	101	34
23	116	320	315	138	47	101	48
10	117	322	327	147	50	105	49
23	113	323	322	127	57	108	40
23	120	323	335	128	64	112	48
22	114	317	338	146	63	112	46

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C.F.-30.

Forest DEPARTMENT.

Received 5-DEC 1939 19 — UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVT. DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Registered 5-12-39 19

-I

Subject.

LEASE -

Urgent.

Land for cultivation of cardamom and oranges - Applications - Mr.R.C. Morris.

ENCLOSURES.
No. 1 Note attached with the application.
Spare copies

Reference No. 6215-38-Dl.

Station Madras, Dated the 2nd December 19 39

From (Name) C.C. Wilson Esq., I.F.S.,
(Designation) Chief Conservator of Forests.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Development Department.

Sir,

pp 1-4 ante

pp 8-13 infra

In continuation of this office Reference No.6215-38-Dl, dated the 17th November 1939, a brief resume of the cases regarding the application of Mr.R.C. Morris:—

(i) for land for cardamom cultivation; and

(ii) land for orange cultivation,

in the Gundal valley, of Kollegal Division is submitted.

for Chief Conservator of Forests.

Encs: 1 Note.

oav. 4.12

4/12.

4-DEC 1939

8 11

RESUME OF THE CASES REGARDING MR. R.C. MORRIS'S APPLICATION FOR (i) LAND FOR CARDAMOM CULTIVATION, (ii) LAND FOR ORANGE CULTIVATION, IN THE GUNDAL VALLEY OF KOLLEGAL ~~DISTRICT~~ Division.

(i) Cardamom Cultivation.

p 14 infra

In 1937 Mr. Morris applied to the Chief Conservator of Forests, through the Collector and Conservator for 400 acres of land for the cultivation of cardamoms in the Gundal Valley. A copy of the application is enclosed.

p 14 infra

It was opposed by the Collector, Mr. A.C.Woodhouse under the misapprehension that such cultivation would interfere with the water supply available in the Gundal river for the wet cultivation in the Kollegal ~~District~~ Division. Apparently Mr. Smyth, the Executive Engineer, had been apprehensive of the effect of such cultivation.

2. The Chief Conservator of the time being, Mr. Whitehead, refused to consider the case.

3. In July 1938, after I had assumed charge of the Chief Conservator's office, Mr. Morris wrote to me and renewed his application for the land for cardamom planting, I having asked him whether he would not be willing to take up such a lease in the evergreen forests in Kollegal, owing to the fact that Government had been pressing me to increase the yield from Minor Forest ~~Produce~~ Products in this Presidency.

4. In August 1938, I camped in the Kollegal Division and inspected the Gundal Valley. As a result

of

of my inspection I recommended to Government in my letter No.6215/38-D1, dated the 21st November 1938 that the forest areas in the evergreen forests of this locality should be leased for planting cardamoms in the same way as has been common in other parts of the Madras Presidency for a number of years past.

5. Planting cardamoms can have no ill-effect on the water supply from the forests affected in view of the fact, that if it is done properly, the forests are not felled and the cardamom plants, which take the place of the natural undergrowth, give better cover to the soil. I have reported upon the matter in detail in my letter to Government referred to above, please vide paragraphs 10 to 1

6. In this connection I would invite Government's notice to their recent order No.2729, Development, dated the 8th November 1939 in which they have approved the grant of similar leases in the evergreen forests at the head of the Thambaraparni river in the Tinnevelly forests, to which objections were raised similar to those now being made to the grant of land in Kollegal.

7. At the same time as reporting to Government I wrote to the Collector Mr. A.C. Woodhouse and gave him a correct idea as to the manner in which cardamoms are cultivated, and showed him how the facts had been misunderstood by the Executive Engineer. He wrote agreeing with me and shortly after handed over charge to the present Collector, Mr. Warren. The latter has, I understand, supported the proposal that land should be leased for cardamom cultivation in this locality and the

the Board of Revenue has recommended that course to Government vide G.O.No.2601, MS. Development dated 24-10-1939.

8. The fact that the Working Plan for Kollegal prepared in ~~1932-33~~ 1931-32 by Mr. Ranganathan under my control has, in passing, commented unfavourably on the various applications for land that have been made by Mr. Morris in this locality has been referred in G.O.No.2601,MS. Development dated 24-10-1939, and this has be taken to imply that I originally opposed any grant of land for planting in this area. This is incorrect, and I am informed by Mr. Morris that one point made, namely, that the land originally granted for rubber planting was never utilized for the purpose, i wrong. Attempts were made, he states, to plant rubber for a numb of years, but it failed and thereafter coffee was put in instead.

9. In any case the lease of shola forest for cardamom planting on a comparatively short term, is in no way comparable t the alienation of forest land for ~~a~~ clear felling and planting up with a crop such as tea, coffee or rubber.

10. I ould once again emphasise the fact that underplanti dense evergreen forest with cardamoms, for which purpose it is or necessary to clear undergrowth and small trees, does not have an ill-effect on the soil and water conservation, but the reverse; cardamom plants cover the ground more effectually than does the natural undergrowth found in a shola forest. vide my letter Ref. No.6215/38-D1 dated 21-11-1938, 19-5-1939 and 17-11-1939.

11. According to the present proposals at the end of a years lease the position would be reviewed and the lease renewed only if it was clear that the forest was not deteriorating, and had not reached such a stage as would make it necessary to resume it in order to ensure its regeneration.

12. I have made a full report on this matter in paragraph 8 to 19 of my letter No.6215/38 D1 dated 21-11-1938 and in para-graphs 2 to 4 of my letter No.6215/38 D1 dated 17-11-1939.

(ii) Orange Cultivation.

13. As regards planting oranges, Mr.Morris applied in his ~~letter~~ letter dated 7th January 1938 to Government and asked whether they would be prepared to grant him a lease of land for planting oranges in Kollegal Division. This was referred to the Chief Conservator for remarks who consulted the Conservator, Coimbatore Circle, who after talking to Mr.Morris about it ~~re~~ reported that he considered there was no objection to the grant and that the maximum area that Mr.Morris might require was 200 acres. From this arose the impression that Mr.Morris had applied for a definite 200 acres of land in the Sundal Valley, and this was held by the Collector to be objectionable. Actually Mr.Morris only required a small area of about 20 acres within this suitable area of 200 acres, and the plot that he wanted was an area of abandoned shifting cultivation which had previously formed a Sholaga settlement, the Sholagas being an aboriginal jungle tribe who have lived in these forests from time immemorial and practise shifting cultivation.

14. Referring again to my letter to Government No.6215-38-D1, dated 21st November 1938 I would invite attention to paragraphs 2 to 7 in which I have given a clear statement of what Mr.Morris wanted.

15. Now, however, I am informed by him, verbally, that he does not require land for orange planting in view of the fact that he is likely to be called up for military duty. I have not received this in writing, but I believe it is correct. He does,

however,

16/

however, still want land for cardamom planting. In his latest letter dated the 12th September 1939 written to the Hon'ble Mr.Munuswami Pillai, when he was the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, after the latter had personally inspected the forests, he stated that all he now wants is between 100 and 200 acres in the northern part of the Gundal Shola (vide his letter to the Hon'ble Minister dated the 12th September 1939).

p46 (J)

p46 (J)

16. Once again I strongly support the grant of land in this locality for planting cardamoms, on the ground that it can do no harm whatever, under the conditions that we lay down at present for such leases, and that it would bring in an appreciable revenue to Government annually, and will add to the general prosperity of the country. The opposition to the grant in Pollegal is, I am of opinion, the result of prejudice and ill-informed opinion.

17. If Mr.Morris does not want the whole of the 400 acres available I would recommend that the balance be granted to any one else who may require it for planting cardamom, - but only for planting cardamoms - not for clear-felling and planting up with any other crop.

18. A further apparent complication has arisen in that Mr.Morris has now applied to Government through the Collector of Coimbatore and the Chief Conservator of Forests asking for permission to relinquish 140 acres of land, in this forest, previously leased to him for experimental cardamom cultivation. This actually has no bearing on the present application as the land was given to him for experimenting and has been found by him to be unsuitable for cardamom

planting

planting because, I understand, it lies at too high an elevation for the crop to bear fruit. The new areas he has now applied for are at a suitable elevation where he already has ordinary grafting in small plantations and bearing satisfactorily. His application for relinquishing the 14 acres is being submitted separately. It has at present been returned to the Collector for elucidation of further details.

14 19

1937
Copy of letter dated the 5th March/from R.C. Morris Esq., to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Lease - Land for cardamoms cultivation.

-- ---

I have the honour to apply for thelease of about 400 acres of land (shola) in the Doduasampagai Reserve, as shown in the enclosed map trace, for the cultivation of cardamoms. The land has proved to be eminently suitable for cardamoms. I would agree to abide by the conditions imposed in the cardamoms agreements I have already negotiated. The areas now applied for adjoin my Estate on its North and Eastern boundaries; and also a patch at the Doasampagai tree, at Doduasampagai itself. I enclose a map tracing showing, shaded in red, the areas applied for. I would propose to open the large area in 100 acre blocks in consecutive years; and to plant up Acrocarpus where growing conditions permit.

- - ---

Doddasampagai Tree
Gundal River
Gundal Valley Rd.
Bellaji
Cardamom area
Bellaji Estate
CHAMRAJNAGAR STATE FORESTS
DODDASAMPAGAI R.F.

16 23

C.F. 30

Forest DEPARTMENT.

Received ... 5-DEC 1939 ... 19 Registered ... 36. -1 / 5.12.39 ... 19

Subject.

Lease - Cardamom - Mr. R.C. Morris.

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Enclosures.
No. Extract.
Spare copies

Refce. No.6215/38-D1

Station Chepauk, Madras, Dated the 4th December 1939.

From (Name) C.C.Wilson Esq., I.F.S.,
(Designation) Chief Conservator of Forests.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
DEVELOPMENT Department.

Sir,

p17 infra

An extract from the letter from Mr.R.C.Morris dated 1st December 1939 is forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Development Department for ~~their~~ information in continuation of this office Ref.No.6215/38-D1 dated 2nd December 1939.

p 4 ante

for Chief Conservator of Forests.

DKS/4.12.

4/12

4-DEC 1939

Copy of extract of letter dated 1st December 1939 from Mr.P.C. Morris to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

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x x x

I recently pointed out that the Kollegal tanks are no longer entirely dependant on the Sundal Stream for their supply of water. The new Hebhalla channel, running from the north-west side of the Hills, and which I took a prominent part in persuading Government to put through, would have provided all the tanks with the required water by itself, without the Sundal water, which however provided an ample supply too. The Hebhalla channel has therefore amply justified it's construction, in spite of the fact that P.W.D. officials were, for years, against the project on the grounds that the results would not justify the expense involved.

Could you possibly lay emphasis on this side of the matter before the Secretariat?

27

Dev. Dept.

O.M. No. 33278-I/39-1 d. 9-12-39

Subject: Forests - Lease of forest lands - Kollegal Dn. - for cultivation of Cardamoms and oranges - Application from Mr. R.C. Morris.

The Collector of Coimbatore is requested to state whether any application from Mr. Morris for a lease of Shola land in Kollegal Taluk for planting Cardamoms was received by him and if so what precisely the application was and what orders were passed on it. An early reply is requested.

2. ~~Two copies~~ of D.C.'s letters No. B2 15/38-D1 d. 17-11-39 2-12-39 & 4-12-39 are forwarded to the Collector ~~for remarks~~ for submitting his remarks thereon through the Board.

Rev

To,

The Collr. of Coimbatore.
a copy of
(~~note~~ Pp 1-17 C.F)

Copy/note sent.

A'arp 6 n F.

Pp 1-17 C.F

18F

30-9/12

9/12

8/12

8/12/39

19

29

C.F. 32.

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.*

Revenue DEPARTMENT. 030132-I

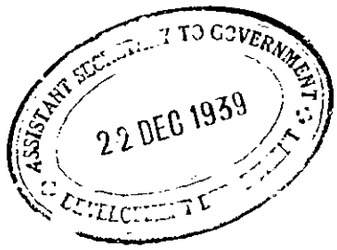
Received *Registered* 3.1.40

From (Name) D.D.Warren Esq., M.C.,I.C.S. ~~Collector~~.

(Designation) Collector of

Post Box, (Station) Coimbatore,

Telegraphic Addr



To

The Secretary to Government,
Development Department, Madras.

L.Dis. *No.* ~~3018/39~~, *dated* 20th Decr. 19 39.

Sir.

Enclosures

Spare Copies

Forests - Lease of forest lands - Kollegal division- cultivation of cardamoms - Application from Mr. R.C. Morris.

Government Memorandum No. 33278-I/39-1 dated 9-12-39. p18 ante

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In March 1937, Mr. Morris applied for the lease of about 400 acres of shola land in the Doddasampagai Reserved Forest of the Kollegal division for the plantation of cardamoms. The application was addressed to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, through the Collector of Coimbatore. The District Forest Officer, the Tahsildar and the Revenue Divisional Officer, Kollegal, were all agreed in not recommending the application as the proposed plantation would result in the dimunition of supply in the Gundal stream which is the source of supply to eight irrigation tanks in the Kollegal taluk. Agreeing with the views of these officers my predecessor Mr. Woodhouse forwarded the application to the Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore, withthis office D.Dis. No. 1812/37 dated 7-5-37. The application was rejected by the Chief Conservator in his proceedings Mis. No. 325 dated 21-6-1937.

not recd.

not recd. A

2. No application for the lease of shola land for the cultivation of cardamoms was received from Mr. Morris afterwards. The applications received from him were for orange or coffee cultivation. In January 1938,

Mr.

Mr. Morris applied for the grant of lease of 200 acres of forest land for the cultivation of oranges. The Executive Engineer, Salem, reported that the area applied for was in the catchment basin of the same Gundal river, and that the cultivation of the area would affect the supply in the Gundal valley. The Revenue Officers were not in favour of the grant. My predecessor agreed and informed the Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore, in July 1938, that he was not in favour of the proposal.

3. In October 1938, Mr. Morris again applied for the lease of 300 acres in Dodabempagai Reserve forest for the cultivation of coffee or oranges. When the proposals were under consideration, Mr. Morris wrote ~~xx~~ on 19-12-38 that his application for the lease of shola land for cardamom cultivation and for the lease of plots for experimental cultivation of oranges was then being considered by the Board of Revenue. No such application was, however, received here. When submitting my report D.Dis. No. 5199/38 dated 19-6-1939 to the Board of Revenue on the application for orange cultivation, I recommended that the proposal of the Chief Conservator, to lease out for such cultivation scattered plots formerly leased to the sholagas where the tree growth had been destroyed subject to suitable conditions including a condition that timber ~~xx~~ trees should be planted might be tried as an experiment in one or two plots of twenty acres each where the tree growth had been destroyed. The application was rejected by the Government in G.O. No. Mis. 2601/Dev. dated 24-10-1939.

Pp 32-3 '39 J 26011 / 24.10 J

Pp 5-1-5-4 J

for Collector.

I.N.L/21-12-39.

21/12

32/

d. 2 H - 10 : 1939. It is put up at (J).

It may be circulated to H.E. through A2.

7/11

8/11/39

9/11/39

A2.

11.11

H.E.

A1

11.11.39

Dev. Dept.

Please see the letter from Mr. Morris on pages

A short history of the Honnametti Estate

paras 22-25. is given at pages 3-4 of the Working Plan placed below.

(J)
p.1 of G.O.2601 Dev. 24.10.1939. On 7th January 1938, Mr. Morris addressed Government enquiring whether they would be prepared to grant or lease land for the cultivation of oranges on the Hills in the Kollegal and North Coimbatore Divisions of the Coimbatore District. No extent was specified in his letter. But the Collector of Coimbatore reported that Mr. Morris

(N)
p.8 of Lodged 2001-I/39, 16.5.1939. applied for grant on lease of 200 acres of forest land for cultivation of oranges and that the application was made in January 1938. The C.C.F.

p.3 of (N) reported that Mr. Morris asked for 20 acres on Darkast to be selected in an area of 200 acres. He however modified the statement later and stated that

p.10 of (N). what Mr. Morris applied for was not 200 acres of forest land or for any land in darkast.

Finally the C.C.F. reported that Mr. Morris

para 4 on p.7 of (J) has applied for some twenty acres of abandoned shifting cultivation for planting oranges and other fruit trees. The C.C.F. recommended the grant of land for the formation of small fruit plantations in

para 23 on p.14 of (J). abandoned cultivation and for the cultivation of cardamoms in the shola forest. The Collector of Coimbatore after discussing with the Chief Consr. of Forests agreed with him and suggested that as

pp.32-33 of (J) regards leasing the shola forest for cardamom cultivation leases might be sold in auction as is being done in the Madura district. The Board

p.34 of (J). agreed with the Collector and recommended his

Governor's Secretariat.

5983 F
1 NOV 1938

U.o. note No. 3010/39-2, dated 3rd November 1939.

The Revenue Dept. may be asked whether there are any papers in that Department relating to an application for the lease of land for the cultivation of cardamoms in Kollegal Taluk, Coimbatore Dt., made by Mr.R.C.Morris of Honnametti Estate. If so, the case may please be sent for His Excellency's perusal, through A1

P.S.G.
3/xi/39

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
7-NOV1938
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Rev. u.o.

Rev. Deptt.

To u.s.

The file relating to the application of Mr. R.C. Morris referred to in P.S.G.'s note above is with the Development Department. ~~transferred to Dept. vide this Dept. No. Dev. 186 f/39-1 dated 16.1.1939.~~ That Deptt. may be requested to send the file for HE's perusal through A1.

Verified.

99978-D
7.11.39

4.11.39.

6/11

Dev

Rev no rro 5983 7/39-1
6-11-39

Dev. Deptt.

To A.S.

Final orders have been passed on ~~the petition~~ case referred to above in G.O. No. 2 Dev. dated

M.S.1-54 of (J)

proposal. Please see the orders of H.M. (Agrl.) on pp.39-40 of G.O.No.2601 Dev., dated 24.10.39, refusing to grant the land on lease for fruit cultivation. In this connection attention is invited to portion 'A' in Morris' letter. From this it would appear that he now contemplates planting cardamom in about 400 or 500 acres and apparently wants this extent of forest area on lease for cardamom cultivation. In his application referred to above he wanted only 20 acres of abandoned land for fruit cultivation. Please see para 4 on page 7 of (J). He did not ask for any lease of land for cardamom cultivation though the C.C.F. proposed that as about 400 acres of evergreen shola forest suitable for cardamom planting is available, the right to cultivate it may be sold in auction or by inviting tenders.

p.12 of (J)

The Chief Conservator of Forests has also addressed Government regarding the lease of forests in the Kollegal Division for cultivation of cardamoms and oranges. He evidently wants a reconsideration of the orders issued in G.O.No.2601 Dev., dated 24.10.1939. In that G.O. while negativing the application from Mr. Morris for lands for orange cultivation, the Government did not also accept the Chief Conservator's proposals

(1) for the formation of fruit plantations in areas where cultivation has been abandoned, and

(2) for cultivation of cardamoms in shola forests on lease in suitable blocks.

His original proposals will be found in detail in his letter dated 21.11.1938 on pp.6-14 of the G.O. at (J) The reasons for not accepting his proposals then are given in the late Minister's minutes on pages 39-41 of

the G.O. ibid. It may be noted that cardamom leases are given elsewhere in Madura and Tinnevelly Divisions. The refusal in this case was probably largely influenced by the remarks of the Working Plans Officer in paras 19-26 of his report.

In para 7 of his letter at p.4 c.f., the C.C.F. requests permission to interview A-2 on the subject.

30/11/39.

A2

I will see the CCF
30/11

Put this up tomorrow at 11 A.m. for telephoning to C.C.F.
30/11/39.

I have telephoned to C.C.F. He will discuss this with the Adviser at 3 P.m. today.

1/12/39.

Put up in Special
1/12/39

A2.

I understand from C.C.F. that Mr Morris does not now wish to start prawn oranges.

There is reference to an application from Mr Morris for a lease of Shola lands for planting Cardamoms but we have no such application

3b/

any specific information that such an application was made or what happened till

The Coll. may be requested to state whether Mr. Morris made such an appn. if so what precisely the appn was & what orders were passed on it

I think the question of bilateral Cardamoms in the area in question may be reconsidered. The question of Catch-cultivation by the small hill tribes also seems to merit further consideration.

A

B

GO 2601 d 24.10.39 prohibits the cultivation of Cardamoms in the Gumti Valley. But the reasons for this are inconsistent neither with the facts of the effects that arise from Cardamom plantations nor with the orders & policy of Govt in other areas e.g. Tinnevelly (G.O. 2729 d 4.11.39) and Madura where such cardamom cultn has been encouraged for many years

J

E

29/12/39.

HE

2.12

H.E. I agree that the decision not to grant a lease for cardamoms in this area should be reconsidered.

E. 4.12.39

6/12/39.

(C. No. 36010-I/39)
f.7 C.F

From the C.C.F. Ref. No. 6215-38.

D. d. 2.12.39.

(C. No. 36013-I/39)
f.16 C.F

From the C.C.F. Ref. No. 6215-38.

D. d. 4.12.39.

To A.S.

With reference to the Adviser's minute at 'A' ante, a draft O.M. to the Collr. of Coimbatore is submitted for approval.

8/12/39

7/12

8/12/39

f.18 C.F

[Issued as O.M. No. 33278-I/39-1 d. 9.12.39]

(C. No. 132-I/40)
f.19-20 C.F

From the Collr. of Coimbatore
L. Dis. No. 8018/39 d. 20.12.39.

To A.S.

Please see the letter from the Collector

Collector of Coimbatore at pp.19-20 c.f.

2. The application for lease of forest land for cardamom cultivation which Mr.Morris submitted in 1937 was rejected by the C.C.F. The latest communication from Mr.Morris was on 12-9-39.

3. In Madura, leases for cultivation of cardamoms are sold in auction subject to the payment of rent at the highest existing rate viz.,Rs.5 per acre and subject to some other conditions specified in the agreement. In the Tinnevelly district, the C.C.F. has been permitted to lease out forest areas for cardamom cultivation subject to the following conditions:-

(1) the area to be leased should be limited to 1000 acres in the whole in the next five years,
(2) all big trees in the areas to be leased out should be retained;
(3) the leases be limited for a period of 25 years; and
(4) the leases should be sold in public auction as is being done in the Madura District.

In the case of the Kollegal Division, the C.C.F's proposal was

(1) that 400 acres may be sold in auction or by inviting tenders;
(2) that Rs.5 to 10 per acre may be fixed as upset price;
(3) that an annual rent of Rs.2-8-0 per acre for the first few years and of Rs.5/-per acre thereafter may be charged; and
(4) that the period of leaae may be fixed at 25 years.

The conditions of lease proposed for Kollegal are almost similar to those prescribed for Madura and

Tinnevelly Forest Division. The C.C.F. requested the approval of Government to his instructing the Conservator to call for tenders or to put up to public auction in suitable large blocks, the area of 400 acres for cardamom planting. It is therefore for orders whether the C.C's proposal referred to above will be approved or whether fresh propsals should be called for.

A. 9. (J)

Besides the application from Mr. Morris to the C.C.F in 1937 which the C.C.F (Mr Whitehead) rejected, Mr. Morris at the insistance of the C.C.F (Mr. Wilson) wrote and renewed his application to the C.C.F in July 1938 for land for cardamom planting. It was on this application that Mr. Wilson inspected the lands and made proposals which led to the G.O of October 1939 (to be reconsidered now) This is what Mr. Wilson now reports, though his previous proposals did not mention any application from Mr. Morris for land for cardamom planting. The C.C.F has not sent us the 'renewed application' of Mr. Morris; but this is perhaps not necessary, if the previous proposals of the C.C.F. are to be reconsidered, which were to auction the lease of 400 acres of land or to call for tenders. For orders.

paras 1 & 2, pp 8 C.F.

paras 3 & 4, pp 8-9 C.F.

paras 16 & 18 on p. 12 of (J)

A2

H.S.

40/

10 2/2

I observe that the previous orders
in modified we may attach
accept the C.C.'s recommendation
for allowing Cardamom plantation
here to the extent of 400 acres in the
first place on the same general
conditions as apply in Tinnevelly

316.

Recd
2 PM
5.2.40.

VI/

I agree with A2.

E. 2.2.4.

RJ 5/2

Con
3.2.40.

Dem. Dept

To A.S.

A draft order is submitted
for approval.

Issue
RC
5-2-40

AH
3/2

GK
3.2.40

Draft sent for
issue
CVI
5/2

38 ,, 47 ✓

C.F. 16.

DRAFT FOR APPROVAL.

	Date.	Initials.
When received for fair copying ..		
When copied ..	5/2/39	
When examined ..	6/2/39	
When signed ..		
When despatched.		

SUBJECT:— Desp. dept

Forests - Lease - Kollegal Forest Division - cardamom cultivation - G.O.'s proposals sanctioned

READ AGAIN 2601 Rev , dated 24-10-1935. (I)

,, ,, ,, ,, 19

READ *ALSO*:—

No. 35257 I/35 From the CCF Ref , No. 6215/35 I dated 17-11-1935.

,, ,, ,, ,, 2-12-39

,, ,, ,, ,, 4-12-1939

,, ,, ,, ,, 9-12-35

,, ,, ,, ,, 20-12-1935.

Order ~~Resolution~~ Ms. ~~Rout.~~ No. 280 , dated 5/2/1940

(J)

[In modification of the orders in G.O. No. 2601 Rev dt 24-10-35], H.E. the Governor of Madras is pleased to approve the Chief Conservator's proposal that an area of 400 acres of land in the Kollegal Forest Division should be leased for cardamom cultivation. The leases should be subject to the same general conditions as have been prescribed [in G.O. No 2729 Rev dt 8-11-35]

Copies 16 + 18 Rt + 12 CF

by

for Cardamom cultivation
in the Travancore Hills

To Mr 667

Board of Revenue